



District of the Pacific Update

Champagnat Marist

Kia Ora, Greetings, Ni sa bula vinaka, Kam na mauri, Talofa Lava



District Dates

Friday 10th October: Fiji Day
 Tuesday 12th October: Marist Anniversary 1826: The First Vows in the Institute were made by eight Brothers at L'Hermitage.
 Tuesday 12th October: Marist Anniversary 1839: Brothers Francois was elected First Superior General with Brother Louis-Marie and Jean-Baptiste as his assistants.



Attached Reports:

Marist News from Rome 698

[Download Marist News—PDF](#)

Friday 8th October 2021



Sharing

THE LAY
MARIST
VOCAATION

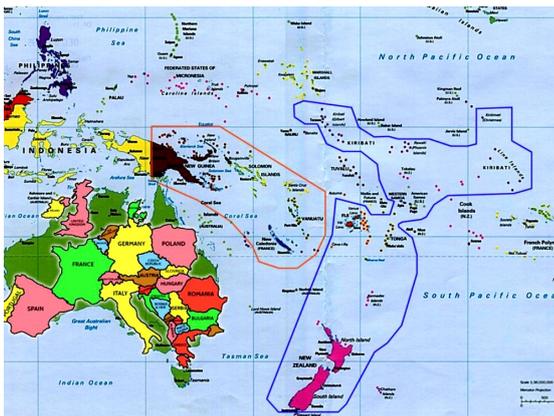
Greetings to our global Marist family from your brothers and sisters at the ends of the earth - OCEANIA! It is customary in this part of the world to establish your connections before any business can begin. I hope you get to know us a little better in our SHARING with you in this edition, as we walk together as Marists the process of the International Forum for the Lay Marist Vocation.



Who are we, the people of Oceania?

The time difference between Tarawa, Kiribati and Rome is +10 hours. We are people living in the future of others.

The distance from Apia, Samoa to Rome is 16,858 kms. We are people who understand distance.



Rita Rokocakau, Fiji - Marist Brothers High School

I am forever grateful to the Brothers who have been a source of strength and inspiration for me over the years. Their example and learning about the five Marist pillars has been a motivating factor in how I have tried to live out my life as a mother, helper at the school and a Lay Marist.

I strive each day to live out this charism through my daily interactions with family, the children at school and the wider school community and church and social contact.

If I can aspire to lead others to Christ through Mary, our Mother, through my presence, simplicity, love of work and family spirit in all aspects of my life, then I know that I am living out my calling to make Jesus known and loved. **ALL TO JESUS THROUGH MARY**



St Joseph's Catholic Secondary School - Tenaru



My name is Loveridge Roau, from the Solomon Islands in the Oceania region. I first came across the Marist Brothers in 2009 as the assistant bursar at St. Joseph's Catholic Secondary School at Tenaru. I became part of this great family back in 2017. It was no accident but a blessing to be working in a Marist School as the Bursar. I am thankful to our Marist Life Formation Team for workshops, retreats and family prayers that have helped me to deepen my understanding of the Marist Charism and spirituality in the tradition of St. Marcellin Champagnat.

Youth Ministry and Outreach Coordinator, Mt Carmel Catholic High School



My life as a lay Marist did not begin in the conventional sense. I did not attend a Marist school, nor did I know much about this charism until I started working at a Marist College in Sydney, Australia, in 2017.

I firmly believe that there is no coincidence that my experiences in life have brought me to my life as a Marist today. I would like to begin this sentiment with words of one of my favourite theologians Henri Nouwen. "Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to

in your life".

Catholic School Day—St Paul's College—Auckland

We celebrated Catholic Schools Day on Wednesday 29th September. We had a Full School Zoom Assembly. We gathered to celebrate and praise God for the gift of Catholic Schools and Catholic Education. The theme was Turangawaewae – a place to stand. Joseph began with a prayer and Josiah made a few intercessory prayers.

We had Bishop Michael speak to us on this auspicious day. Lastly, we ended with a song – Celebration, composed and sung by our very own Marist Priest Father Chris Skinner. The words were so meaningful. In our Staff Reflection this morning, I thanked all the teachers on behalf of Bishops Pat and Michael, for all that we do for Catholic Education in the Diocese of Auckland and all that you do for Catholic education in the Diocese of Auckland. May our Mother Mary support each one of us as we strive to live out our Faith Journey in her Son through the Christian witness of our lives.

Mrs Pam D'Souza Director of Religious Studies

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary and Rosary month—Sacred Heart College

As we look ahead towards the summer, we embrace the warmth and light that comes with daylight savings time. The past week not only marks the end of winter and the end of term; it also marks the beginning of October. The Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to a certain devotion. Traditionally, the month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. This is a time when the faithful are encouraged to pray the rosary if possible. As part of this month-long memorial, we also mark the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary this coming Thursday 7 October. Once we return to school in person, we look forward to celebrating the month of the Holy Rosary together as a school and faith community. In the meantime, although we remain in our bubbles for now, this does not prevent us from celebrating the Marian feast as part of a global Catholic family. What better time to pray the rosary and reconnect with Mary, Jesus and God, than when you are feeling physically disconnected from the rest of the world? What better opportunity to strengthen your faith in God than to do so one-on-one in God's presence?

Ms Gemma Solomons Assistant HOD Religious Education

District of the Pacific: Marist Youth Ministry Virtual Conversazione

Congratulations to our Young Brothers and Champagnat Marists for their presentation to the District on October 3. A great opportunity to witness Joanie (REMAR NZ), Sheena (MARISI FIJI) and Tabunga (CHAMPGNAT Youth Kiribati) share about what is happening in this area. Special thanks to Brothers Petero and Anitelea for coordinating and leading the presentation.



More than 40 participants of Champagnat Marists (Brothers and Others) participated in a ZOOM Conversazione on the THEME: 'Marist Youth Ministry' A snapshot of the present and a Dream towards the Future'.